Surabaya, Indonesia

**Courtesy call between the Mayor of Surabaya and the UK Ambassador to Indonesia**

On 19 April 2021, the UK Ambassador to Indonesia, Owen Jenkins, had a virtual meeting with the newly elected Mayor of Surabaya, Bapak (Mr) Eri Cahyadi, during which the Mayor of Liverpool also participated to discuss collaboration between the two cities, and collaboration between the UK Government and the City of Surabaya.

During the discussion, a short film focusing on the achievements of the two Global Future Cities interventions in Surabaya was shared. Both the Urban Transformation and the Earthquake Preparedness interventions are well known to the new Mayor, as he was Head of the Planning Agency prior to becoming the Mayor, and the film has helped to crystallise the Global Future Cities Programme relevance. The Urban Transformation intervention has reached the interest of 83 other communities in Indonesia and the very recent earthquake that occurred in Melang (City in the Indonesian province of East Java) recalled the importance of getting well prepared.

Bapak (Mr) Eri agreed with the next-steps actions that were requested by the Future Cities team and has asked his team to make the proper follow
up. The Global Future Cities Surabaya team would like to express their gratitude to the UK Ambassador and the Mayor of Surabaya for giving their attention to the implementation of the activities carried out in the two above mentioned interventions for the benefit of the people of Surabaya.

Watch short film highlighting the achievement of the GFCP Surabaya interventions shared during the virtual discussion [here](#).

Content owner: [Francois Bernard Brikke](mailto:francois.brikke@fcdo.gov.uk)

**Surabaya, Indonesia**

**Women’s History Month, March 2021**

In celebration of Women’s History Month, we are highlighting one of Dolly’s most extraordinary, courageous, and inspirational women. Global Future Cities Programme, Surabaya Urban Transformation intervention launched a podcast with Dolly local hero, Lilik Sulistiowati, also known as Mami Vera. By speaking to Vera, we wanted to raise awareness about the negative stigma faced by vulnerable groups in Dolly, with the aim of improving their lives in the future. Vera provides a neighbourhood shelter called ‘Abdi Asih’ for children with HIV and survivors of human trafficking. In the podcast session, Vera openly shared the stories and experiences from her neighbourhood. She vividly described the extensive challenges for
the members of her shelter before and after the closure of the historic red-light district.
Dolly is an example of social transformation that relies on the citizens of Surabaya to shift collectively towards greater inclusivity and acceptance of its past. However, gender bias and negative stigma continue to create huge barriers for many of the most vulnerable in society.

Mami Vera, Dolly local hero of Surabaya, Indonesia. Photo by: Fully Syafi

Listen to the Podcast featuring Mami Vera here
Read full article about Ms Mami’s work here
Content owner: Chandra Sugarda

**Bandung, Indonesia**

**Greenlight for minibus route to improve congestion in Bandung**

On 8 April 2021, the Bandung project team received an official approval response letter from the local City Transport Agency concerning the proposal of the ‘Angkot’ (minibus) route that that would contribute to the future development of improved public transport services. The approval from the city paves the way for integrating an improved public transport system within the city public transport strategic planning.

The City Transport Agency acknowledges that the team’s proposal aligns with the programme of the Government of Bandung City which includes the improvement of public transport mode share, integrated infrastructure and supporting the implementation of low carbon mobility. The team’s recommendation will be considered for both short-term and long-term plans
aiming for the improvement of public transportation services and will be referenced during the development of the City strategic planning.

Engagement between Bandung integrated transport delivery team and city transport agency on proposed minibuses routes early April 2021

Read full article [here](#).

Content owner: [Kenny Kapuasiana](#)

**Melaka and Iskandar Malaysia**

**Everyone’s a winner with community engagement**

The Global Future Cities Programme (GFCP) Malaysia team recently completed a community engagement exercise in conjunction with the roll-out of the Household Travel Survey, using the ‘PerjalananKu’ mobile application in Iskandar Malaysia and Melaka.

The teams deployed a total of 12 staff and 26 local representatives who visited Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) communities including lower income groups (B40), indigenous (Orang Asli) groups, associations for persons with disabilities (PwD) and the homeless community to ensure their inclusion in the ‘PerjalananKu’ data collection.

The first 1000 sign-ups received vouchers worth RM20, while 25 lucky winners received RM100 vouchers. In each city, one lucky participant has been rewarded with vouchers worth RM1000!
The on-ground exercise over a span of five days in Iskandar Malaysia and six days in Melaka enabled the GFCP Malaysia team to obtain more than 2,000 sign-ups. The data collected will be used for the development of transport models, which will contribute to the long-term improvements to transport and mobility networks in these two cities.

Content owner: Roseanne Clarice

Melaka and Iskandar Malaysia

UK knowledge sharing on digital and technology standards

The Global Future Cities Programme (GFCP) Malaysia team organised a virtual workshop on digital and technology standards on 7 April 2021, with
presentations from the United Kingdom Government Digital Services (UK GDS).
Throughout the session, speakers Tony Richards, Paloma Jain and Ben Vandersteen guided participants on the importance of ‘standards setting’ in digital transformation, based on their own experience working with Digital Penang. Paloma also shared examples of easy but impactful ‘user testing’ approaches that can be employed by local stakeholders.
Attendees were from Iskandar Malaysia and Melaka local authorities, governmental agencies, professional and educational institutions, as well as the private sector.
The interactive session saw attendees using collaborative online brainstorming tools to indicate where they felt digital standards could help them or their organisation improve efficiency and quality of work.

Screen capture of the UK GDS workshop featuring the speakers and attendees
Brainstorm session outcome on how standards help individual, or an organisation improve efficiency and quality of work

Content owner: Roseanne Clarice Iskandar

Iskandar Malaysia

Encouraging citizen feedback in Iskandar Malaysia

The GFCP Iskandar Malaysia Team, together with Majlis Bandaraya Iskandar Puteri (MBIP) are developing a Citizen Feedback Portal as a tool for people within the Iskandar Malaysia region to log complaints on public issues such as potholes, malfunctioning streetlights, parking and sanitation. MBIP is a key stakeholder on the Smart Integrated Mobility Management System (SIMMS) Pilot Project that is being developed as part of the GFCP. The Citizen Feedback Portal has been introduced as a proof of concept for use of Smart Technology at the Iskandar Puteri municipality. The portal was developed using ArcGIS Solution-Crowdsource reporting tools, allowing for greater location accuracy via its Geographic Information System (GIS) capabilities. Citizens can pinpoint the location of their grievance, as well as vote on existing complaints to increase the priorities of the complaint. With this clear intelligence, MBIP hopes to improve its efficiency in addressing and closing out these issues. The Citizen Feedback Portal’s associated analytics and reporting tools will also allow for greater transparency and visibility of the entire process.
Members of the GESI Consultative Group (GCG) were actively included as part of the portal’s development, focusing on user experience and user interface aspects to ensure that members of the GESI community can utilise this tool to drive improvements within their communities.

User Interface of the Citizen Feedback Portal

*Citizen Feedback Portal location accuracy via its Geographic Information System (GIS) capabilities*

Content owner: Roseanne Clarice
Cebu, Philippines

Cebu delivery team completes household surveys amidst COVID-19 restrictions to inform an inclusive social situation and impact analysis

The Cebu delivery team, together with the Pagtambayayong Foundation, has successfully completed a survey of 457 households in 16 barangays as part of its social situation and impact analysis (SSIA), despite tighter restrictions brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic in Cebu. The purpose of the SSIA is to inform the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office and Cebu City Government about the overall context and situation in the city. It provides baseline data and socio-economic information necessary for the development of the City’s affordable housing and integrated urban development strategy.

The completed surveys of vulnerable households in danger zones, in informal and formal settlements, and those facing eviction are the last of the Cebu delivery team’s primary data gathering activities for the SSIA. These primary data gathering activities and analysis are crucial in ensuring that the subsequent outputs under the Cebu interventions—including the affordable housing strategy, city development strategy, and feasibility study—will respond to the needs of Cebu’s informal settlement families and ensure social inclusiveness of marginalised groups. Despite challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Cebu delivery team’s use of digital tools and strong partnership with the Pagtambayayong Foundation have ensured that the team’s ultimate outputs are reflective of the needs of the communities who are meant to benefit under the intervention.

Read full article here.

Content owner: Arthur Benjamin Adapon and Vince Docta

Bangkok, Thailand and Cebu, Philippines

Bangkok and Cebu delivery team engage in knowledge sharing session on integrated data

The Bangkok delivery team and the Cebu delivery team engaged in an hour knowledge sharing session to discuss the lessons learned between the Integrated Data Hub (IDH) framework that has been completed for the Bangkok Metropolitan Authority and the Integrated Network Logical
Framework (INLF) for the Cebu City Government that is currently in process. The Cebu delivery team’s and Bangkok delivery team’s outputs both aim to integrate and improve upon their city partners’ current evidence-based planning and management capabilities.

The two teams identified similarities and connections between their interventions. The Cebu team demonstrated its GIS Web Platform, containing urban spatial data that will help the Cebu City Government to strengthen evidence-based decision making. The Bangkok team shared some of their approaches that have worked particularly well, including a workshop on embedding data analytics into everyday thinking using an agile approach to give an idea of what a data science platform would look like, and establishing guidelines for capacity building for the city partner moving forward. The Cebu team took close note of the Bangkok experience to inform the approach for its upcoming strategy for data-enabled city management and planning that is more effective, efficient, and integrated.

**Screen capture of knowledge sharing session between Bangkok and Cebu delivery team on intervention framework**

**Content owner:** Arthur Benjamin Adapon

**Bangkok, Thailand**

**Successful participatory workshop motivates local community to get involved in Transit-Oriented Development Plan preparation**

In late March 2021, the Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Plan project team in Bangkok, Thailand, conducted two participatory workshop sessions with the local community and stakeholders’ organisations to gather
comprehensive and insightful data that will be useful for developing the TOD vision of the project.

The participatory workshops were well-received with a total of 93 attendees representing local and national governmental organisations, the private sector, CBOs and NGOs, and local schools. A representative from the BTS SkyTrain company also attended the workshop. The participants covered a wide range of age groups, from students to seniors and female participants made up slightly more than half of the total number of attendees.

The opinions of stakeholders gathered from these workshops are invaluable contribution to the TOD vision development. First, focussing on the theme “Cultural Heritage”, most participants acknowledged local cultural assets and anticipate a great variety of development. At the same time, they are aware of the weaknesses in their neighbourhood, such as narrow streets and alleys, Second, related to the theme “Health and Wellness”, most participants mentioned the lack of green spaces and parks for recreational activities. Third, concentrating on “Community and Collaboration”, many participants foresee their neighbourhood to be more commercially driven, especially the younger generation. In the long term, they aspire to see an equitable central hub to connect all modes of transportation.

The successful participatory workshops will motivate the local community to be more involved in Transit-oriented Development Plan preparation.
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

What do people with disabilities think about Smart Ticketing Systems for public transport?

With a population of nearly nine million, Ho Chi Minh City’s dependency on private transport contributes heavily to worsening congestion and harmful emissions. Public transport services are currently limited, and many residents are dissatisfied by the current coverage of the bus network. There is also an imbalance in mode share that adds to the economic inequality and access to transport among disadvantaged groups in society.

The Ho Chi Minh City Smart Ticketing System (STS) project, which is a part of the Global Future Cities Programme, aims to encourage and enable interoperability amongst independent large-scale investments in smart ticketing. The STS project will also ensure a broad variety of payment options to serve passengers of all backgrounds, upholding gender, and social inclusivity principles.

Within the constraints imposed by COVID-19 in Ho Chi Minh City, the project gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) team organised multiple face-to-face focus group discussions with representatives of marginalised communities, to better understand their needs and challenges with daily transport. Through these sessions, many recommendations and feasible ideas were developed and will provide a solid basis to strengthen the
foundations and principles of GESI-responsive designs in later stages of our work.

STS GESI group engaging with Person with Disability (PwD) group to better understand their needs and daily transport struggles

Read full article here.
Content owner: Hoang Hong Hanh

Meet the team
Here are some of the lovely colleagues working on the Future Cities programme. If you would like to be showcased in this section, please use the GFCP newsletter – submission form to submit an entry.
Chandra Sugarda

As the Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) Technical Lead of the Global Future Cities Programme (GFCP) Indonesia, I am responsible for providing GESI technical support for the three interventions in the country. My task includes ensuring that GESI aspects are mainstreamed within the outputs and daily operations of the Surabaya Earthquake Preparedness project, Surabaya Urban Transformation project, as well as Bandung Integrated Public Transportation System project. Aside from supporting the projects with GESI technical analysis, my work includes safeguarding the affected and potentially affected communities by making sure every project team engages with the identified vulnerable communities throughout the project’s lifecycle.

Prior to joining the team, I have led multi-disciplinary development programs for over 15 years focusing on raising awareness and integrating gender, disability, and social inclusion, both with internal project/program’s team and with the program’s stakeholders. With the arrival of COVID-19 at the beginning of the GFC Programme, community and stakeholder’s engagement have become a challenge as mobility and face-to-face meetings were restricted. However, as a team we have managed to undertake different approach successfully, using online and/or hybrid consultation including with those without smart phones and online applications, making sure that no one is left behind. I am sure with the team’s strength and hard work, we can assist stakeholders and communities in improving their systems and increase the lives of their communities, including those who are disadvantaged.

To achieve my work life balance, I love scuba diving in many parts of the archipelago. Swimming with Manta and Sunfish (Mola mola) or looking for the ever-colourful nudibranchs has been my life’s passion and has kept me grounded.

Content owner: Chandra Sugarda
I’m cross-cutting advisor for smart technologies and data on the programme, and simply in awe at the wonderful applications of technology our teams are undertaking to make a difference across Southeast Asia. I have also worked extensively on another Prosperity Programme, supporting the governments of Vietnam and Indonesia in the national implementation of Building Information Modelling (BIM) – I’m especially proud of the work our team did here which included working with government, industry and academia to introduce new skills and processes. Plus, I got to appear on Vietnam TV.
So, what about my background? Let’s start with numbers… I’ve worked with Mott MacDonald for 21 years, my first internship was 24 years ago, I’ve worked in 16 countries and lived in 3. I spent 8 years working as a civil engineer, 11 in our corporate services teams and am now growing our Digital Advisory team in Singapore. As a civil engineer I got to work on all sorts of rehabilitation projects for infrastructure – how to get more out of existing assets, how to upgrade them to meet new conditions – looking back it was all about resilience and sustainability, and working in diverse teams to get the best solution. My work included inspection and detailed investigation, so I ended up doing things like dangling above nuclear reactors, avoiding barracudas while inspecting jetties, and confined space entry to check out the most wonderful Victorian sewers! In reality, a common theme was finding the right information, and how to be efficient in processing it. I self-taught database design and coding and used any technology I could to provide solutions which saved time for our teams and saved costs for our clients. This included developing a database to combine a variety of data, manage and report on over 1000 railway bridges to understand the impact of high-speed loading – all way before data science and dashboards were a thing, and saving half-a-million pounds for our client (and ultimately saving the tax payer money as well!)

With each country I’ve lived in, it seems my family grows. I have 3 wonderful daughters, one born in UK, one in UAE and one in Singapore! We’re not allowed to move country again, just in case! As much as they are great fun, my spare time is spent getting out of the house, ideally to cycle or run – these are ideal ways to discover the wonderful variety of nature in Singapore. I also took up triathlon a few years back, I’m far from being the best but really enjoy the challenge, and I use all of the technology I can to monitor performance! It’s not all healthy living though, and I have a significant collection of single malt whisky… including significant whisky investments with a young distillery which is celebrated as being the most sustainable in Scotland.
Outside of work, I volunteer as a member of the Sustainability Committee for Singapore’s British Club – this is a family oriented social club and the committee was formed at the beginning of 2020 – I’ve been inspired by our programme to produce framework of sustainability priorities based around the indicators underpinning the SDGs. We’re making an impact already, in terms of having an influence on reducing energy and waste consumption, raising awareness with members, and going digital at the same time of course. I’ve also recently been voted in as the Chairman of The British Chamber of Commerce’s Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Committee in Singapore and am looking forward to working in this role to help our members understand more about digitalisation in the built environment and communities we work with.

Content owner: Derek Murray

**Newsletter**

**Submitting your news**
Please use the [GFCP newsletter – news submission form](#) to submit any announcements to be included in the next newsletter.

**Community Urban Agenda Platform**

The New Urban Agenda Platform is the knowledge portal for gathering voluntary reports, best practices, and data - both quantitative and qualitative, for reviewing the progress made in implementing the New Urban Agenda to achieve the 2030 Agenda of the Sustainable Development Goals.

This platform is for national governments, subnational governments, local authorities, civil societies, UN entities, private sector, regional organisations and all other key stakeholders to voluntarily share their contributions to the implementation of the global agenda from the global, regional, national and local level.
As a one-stop shop for both reporting and learning, the platform supports knowledge exchange, encourages interaction, and supports capacity development to establish communities of practice for sustainable urbanisation development.

We encourage you to sign up here and join the various groups for GFCP and post links to good news stories developed and published on the UN-Habitat knowledge platform to encourage discussions on relevant topics and promote engagement! This is a growing initiative aimed at creating and reinforcing partnerships among all relevant stakeholders and fostering collaboration, for transformative urban solutions and mutual learning.

Contact us

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